The Student Pathways Survey

Links:

- The Student Pathways Survey can be accessed here.
- The *Student Survey Procedures Manual* can be accessed from the School to Work website.

What is the Student Pathways Survey?

The web-based survey *Student Pathways Survey* is a joint venture between the Vocational Education in Schools Directorate, Educational Measurement and School Accountability Directorate and the Information Technology Directorate. The survey was developed between 2002 and 2003, then piloted in 2004 with 108 schools and 18,302 students and will be offered to all schools with a secondary enrolment from 2005/2006.

The survey is designed to encourage students to reflect on and report their confidence in the outcomes of the *School to Work: Creating Future Pathways Program*. Students report their confidence levels on employment-related skills, goal setting, part-time work, job choice, career information and support, pathway options, career and transition planning, and intended school exit destination and timing.

Upon completion of the online survey, students receive an instantaneous feedback report which reflects their current thinking and which offers them ways to improve their confidence and capacity to self-manage their personal career pathway.

Why offer the survey?

The vision of the School to Work: Creating Future Pathways indicates that students will need to "take on personal leadership and responsibility for planning and self-managing their career transitions to construct a fulfilling and productive life."

Current national and international thinking about the importance of "the systematic career development of young people and adults faced with needing to more actively manage life, learning and work in a society that is typified by changing technologies, changing work practices, changing employer expectations and changing family structures." (draft *Australian Blueprint for Career Development 2003*).

The *Student Pathways Survey* is therefore a tool which supports individual students to develop the skills, confidence and capacity to self-manage their career journey through and beyond school.

The survey provides careers advisers and other significant school personnel with an invaluable insight into the student's stage of career development. It provides an excellent basis for individual career counselling, and can be used with existing tools, practices and programs to better support students career planning, increase student motivation and student engagement with education and training.

The survey also allows schools; school education groups and regions to capture data which reflects student's perceptions around the areas above. This useful information can inform school and regional plans to better support students in their career and transition planning.

How can my students access the survey?

School personnel should check with their local Vocational Education Consultant before implementing the survey to ensure that regional expectations are being met. Such expectations could include:

- The attendance of relevant staff at an initial briefing session
- The identification of particular groups of students (eg year cohorts, equity groups)
- Timeframes for implementation and completion
- Attendance of relevant staff at specialised career counseling training associated with the student reports produced by the survey

Once regional expectations have been determined, school personnel should commence planning to implement the survey. Advice on school preparation, implementation models, forward planning and student preparation is provided in *Section 2 Preparing for the survey in the School Procedures Manual.*

Implementation advice for schools is provided in *Section 3 Implementing the survey* of the *School Procedures Manual*. Instructions for completing the survey are provided in *Appendix A* (teacher-led approach) and *Appendix B* (student-led approach) of the manual.

The Student Pathways Survey can be accessed here.

Student reports

Personalised feedback reports are instantaneously generated for students upon completion and submission of the online survey. These reports can be accessed by teachers at the school for purposes of supporting individual students with their career and transition planning.

Advice and further information for schools is provided in *Section 4 Individual student feedback reports* of the *School Procedures Manual*. It is highly recommended that identified school personnel attend the specialised career counseling training associated with the student reports produced by the survey. This training will be conducted by a career development specialist and will be facilitated by the region.

School reports

Aggregated data from the survey is compiled to produce school reports at a time identified by the region. These reports may include student year cohorts and/or identified groups of students eg equity groups. The school reports provide schools with data for school planning and reporting purposes.

Advice and further information for schools is provided in *Section 5 Aggregated School Reports*.

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